

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 581

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3735

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GE GW WB ETEL UN ITU

SUBJ: BERLIN IN ITU REPORTING

REF: STATE 140237

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS DERIVED FROM A CONVERSATION WITH HORST SCHIRMER, FRG MISSION REFERENT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS MATTERS, ON JULY 18. THOUGH SCHIRMER DID NOT ATTEND THE JULY 10 BONN GROUP MEETING, HE BELIEVES CRUX OF PROBLEM CONCERNS IFRB FREQUENCY SYMBOLS WHICH WILL BE USED TO DIFFERENTIATE THE FRG AND GDR AND NOT ANY STATISTICS PER SE. SCHIRMER STATED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER OF FREQUENCY SYMBOLS AT SOME LENGTH WITH IFRB CHAIRMAN RENE PETIT.

2. IN PAST, SYMBOL "D" HAS APPLIED TO ENTIRE AREA OF GERMANY. NOW THAT THE GDR IS A MEMBER OF ITU, ONE ESSENTIAL QUESTION, ACCORDING TO FRG, IS WHICH SYMBOLS WILL BE UTILIZED TO DESIGNATE FRG AND GDR. PETIT HAD APPARENTLY ORIGINALLY SUGGESTED THAT THE FRG BE ASSIGNED THE NEW SYMBOL "DBR." HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO SCHIRMER, THIS SOLUTION IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE FRG WHICH, FOR VARIOUS POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REASONS, WISHES TO RETAIN "D." PETIT COUNTERED WITH A SUGGESTION THAT THE FRG BE REPRESENTED BY "D" BUT THAT THE PREFACE (KEY) TO SYMBOLS

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INCLUDE A NOTATION THAT "D" APPLIED TO FRG AND WEST BERLIN.

AGAIN ACCORDING TO SCHIRMER, THIS AFFECTS FRG SENSITIVITIS SINCE THE SUMBOL "DDR" WOULD REPRESENT THE GDR, BUT NO SPECIAL REFERENCE WOULD BE MADE TO EAST BERLIN. THE FRG WOULD PREFER THAT "D" AND "DDR" IN THE INDEX OF SYMBOLS BE FOLLOWED BY FRG AND DDR RESPECTIVELY AND THAT THE FOOTNOTE REFERENCE BE THE SAME AS THAT EMPLOYED FOR STATISTICS OF OTHER UN ORGANIZATONS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SYMBOLS ARE WITHOUT RESPECT TO POLITICAL DIVISIONS AND INCLUDE WEST BERLIN AND EAST BERLIN.

3. SCHIRMER IS AWAITING ADVICE FROM BONN. UPON RECEIPT OF SAME, HE PLANS TO DISCUSS THE FRG PLAN WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FRENCH, UK AND US MISSIONS AND SOLICIT THEIR SUPPORT BEFORE HE AGAIN BROACHES THE MATTER WITH CHAIRMAN PETIT.BASSIN

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